

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 10, 2004

Mr. Leslie Moonves
President, CBS Television
524 W. 57th Street
New York, N.Y. 10019

Dear Mr. Moonves,

We understand that CBS is currently running advertisements produced by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on the subject of the recently enacted prescription drug legislation. We urge the network to suspend airing these ads pending the outcome of an ongoing General Accounting Office investigation into the propriety of the Department's alleged expenditure of taxpayer funds on these ads, which are essentially political in nature.

On February 3rd, the HHS revealed that it will use \$9.5 million for a television ad campaign to rebut criticism of the new Medicare law. At this point in time, government investigators have questions about the source of the funds used, and the means under which the production and media contracts have been let.

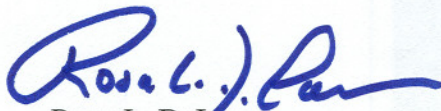
In addition, it has come to our attention that the media concern hired to purchase the air time is also employed by the President's reelection campaign. It is well known that the firm in question, National Media Inc., also does substantial work for the Republican party and the pharmaceutical industry.

Because of these concerns, the General Accounting Office is conducting an investigation into the matter, and a number of members of Congress have asked the HHS Inspector General for answers about it.

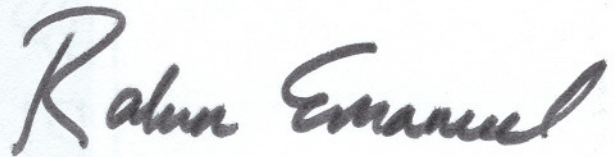
Given the extremely questionable origin of the ads and the overtly political nature of their content, we hope that as a matter of fairness, your network will at least suspend running them until some of these questions can be answered.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress



Rahm Emanuel
Member of Congress